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Weather Forecast for Monday.

Washington, April 10.-Por Oklahoma and Indian Territory: Fair and cooler, northerly winds For Missouri and Kansas: Fair weather; north to For Netraska: Fair; warmer in western portion;

southerly winds AS TO THE ARMISTICE.

At certain stages of the Spanish-Cubar war the proffer of an armistice by Spain might have had some important effect. Coming now, the concession is too late. There is nothing to hope and little to fear from this new bid for delay on the part of

the Spanish government. In the first place it requires two sides to make an armistice effective. There is no probability whatever that the insurgents will look with more favor upon the latest concession from Madrid than they have shown previous offers of compromise. The one thing to which the inpurgents are irrevocably committed is that no compromise will be accepted. They will have what they have been fighting for or they will continue to fight for what they want.

There is no reason, therefore, why the agreement on the part of Spain to declare an armistice should affect the attitude or the policy of the United States government, even though it commands interested attention.

This is especially true since the armistic itself is based upon concessions this country could not afford to make-conditions that are antagonistic to the stand we have already taken and which will be further emphasized in the president's message,

The fact that Spain has taken this step in pursuance of the mediation of the European powers does not necessarily cause any uneasiness in this country. The terms of the armistice, so far as they relate to the United States, are hopelessly exacting, and laying aside all question of sympathy among the nations involved, the powers are bound to recognize the right of the American administration to ignore the implied demand made upon it by the Spanish government.

It is gratifying to know that the confusion and uncertainty which the new movement was obviously designed to create has not upset Washington to any extent. The transparency and insincerity of the coup seem to have been immediately penetrated. The new incident will probably make no change in to-day's programme.

LAST CHANCE FOR THE JINGOES.

The jingo newspapers which have been bitterly assailing the course of President McKinley are staking their last hope of undermining him in public estimation on the charge that there will be something weak or indecisive in the message which he sends to congress to-day. Those who have intelligently followed the developments in the Cuban situation cannot believe any such chance exists. The wise and patriotic course of the president up to the present time gives abundant evidence that his message to-day will be all that American statesmanship requires.

Along with the jingo newspapers are people who profess to believe that the president will ask congress to repose entirely in him the task of settling with Spain, and that, having thus secured the power, he will devote his energies to the patching up of a makeshift peace. This sort of talk comes from those who are desirous of war for war's sake, and who would feel defeated if by any peradventure the Cubans should secure their liberty

without the firing of a gun. We believe, however, that a vast major ity of the American people would rejoice if an honorable settlement could be brought about without a war, and that even at this late day they would heartily second any wise efforts put forth in that direction. But the president himself has said that the time for peaceful negotiations has passed. He has delivered what is practically an ultimatum to the Spanish government. To the representatives of the European nations who called upon him in the interests of peace he declared that the United States had fully and inally determined to put a stop to the atrocious war in Cuba, and he earnestly solicited their good will and sympathy in that humanitarian task. Nothing could be more certain than that President McKinley has drawn in his own mind and in his message a line beyond which this country will not recede. In effect, he has said, and his message will again repeat it, that Spain must withdraw her troops from Cuba and permit the Cubans unmolested to proceed about their peaceful occupations. It is possible that the message may eay nothing of the future of the island. In this affair we stand before the world as the adjuster of cruel wrongs. We have undertaken to stop the starvation and slaughter of a defenseless people. We have delegated to ourselves in the name of humanity the task of turning back a barbaric oppressor. We must not fall from this high estate by making this a war of conquest or of spoils. The governmental future of Cuba is not properly a question

for present determination. Those who talk about President McKinley temporizing with Spain seem to forget that it is President McKinley who has led this nation up to the very verge of war. It is through his almost unparalleled energy that we are at this moment prepared for war. It is he who, point by point, developed the issues which justify us in the eyes of the world in going to war. Beyond putting the means in his hands, even congress has had naught to do with the building of the policy which will lead on to Cuban independence. And yet there are those who profess to fear that President McKinley will falter and fail in the decisive hour.

The final issues are made. The United States has demanded that Spain give up

voice this demand. Spain must comply with it or fight, and peace now seems an impossibility. If we had but the Spanish throne to deal with, peace might be brought about, but in Spain there is more at issue than the loss of Cuba. The whole constitutional fabric of that country is at stake. If the Spanish ministry lost Cuba except as the result of war, the present monarchy would cease to exist. Spain must and will right. It seems only a question of a few hours when hostilities will open.

A PLEADER FOR SPAIN.

The only American statesman of promisence who at this time persists in the deceration that the United States has no legal or moral right to intervene in Cuba is ion, E. J. Phelps, ex-minister to England, Mr. Phelps first entered the controversy with an open letter to ex-Governor Levi P. Morton, and he has within the week reiterated the opinions expressed in that epistle.

As a bread principle of international law Mr. Phelps holds "that no cause whatever, except the necessary defense of a nation's material interests, or of the national honor, can justify forcible interference with the affairs of another country with which it is at peace." To these causes for interference he reluctantly adds another, i. c., the practice of great inhumanities by one or both of the contending armies.

No one can find fault with Mr. Phelps' etatement of the principle of non-intervention as expounded by international law, All of the great authorities upon international comity agree with him that interference can never be justified except when a nation's material interests, its honor, or the laws of humanity are at stake, and to this all of the American statesmen who have taken part in the controversy are also agreed. But when Mr. Phelps attempts to apply this principle to the Cuban situation by declaring that there is nothing in it affecting our material interests, our honor, or the general laws of humanity he takes square issue with the opinions of most of his countrymen, and square issue with the historical records of what other nations have done under the same or similar circumstances. The writers upon international law and the historians have left us in no doubt as to what may be regarded as sufficient cause for intervention. Within the past four years we have seen the nations of Europe intervening between Japan and China, between Greece and Turkey, between contending forces in South Africa. We ourselves have intervened between Great Britain and Venezuela and this procedure met with the indorsement of Mr. Phelps. Does he undertake to say that a cause which was sufficient to urge us to send the queen of England an ultimatum would not have been sufficient to send us to war to enforce it? What is the difference between the present situation in Cuba and the situation in Spain at the time the Spaniards themselves begged Na poleon to interfere to put down a Spanish rebellion and end its inhumanities?

Indeed, in all the long line of interventions none has had juster cause than our proposed procedure with Spain in Cuba None other, perhaps, has had behind it all three of the causes which Mr. Phelps notes as exceptions. We may stand before the civilized world and give eloquent testimony that our material interests have been endangered, our honor assailed, and the great laws of humanity violated. Does it appear to Mr. Phelps that the utter destruction of our Cuban commerce has not involved our material interests? Does he find no assault upon our honor in the fact that American citizens have been ruthlessly butchered or left to rot in loathsome Spanish prisons? Is the destruction of an Amerionn man-of-war with nearly 300 American lives merely an unfortunate incident which is to leave no blot upon our national escutcheon? Is the testimony false which tells us that barbarities have been practiced almost under the American flag such as have no parallel in modern civilization? Scarcely no.

That Mr. Phelps is a special pleader for

the wicked Spaniards must certainly be concluded from the manner in which he violates history. He says: "Spain is a friendly nation and always has been." The American who can make such a statement must be ignorant of the affairs of his own country or else deeply prejudiced. No nation on the face of the globe has given the United States so much trouble as Spain. On two occasions England met us in open and honorable conflict, and for short periods cost us great treasures in blood and gold, but for nearly a century Spain has bushwhacked on our borders. At the beginning of our national history our people were denied the right to trade upon the Mississippl river, and the colonies were in constant turmoil on account of Spanish aggressions. When the Spaniards were forced to yield Louisiana at the importunities of that the territory should never be ceded to the United States. It was the Spanish interdiction of the deposit of American merchandise at New Orleans that led to the Burr rebellion. It was while in possession of a part of Florida that the Spanish incited the Indians to a frightful war upon the American whites, and it was only when Andrew Jackson overpowered the Spanish strongholds that peace and security were obtained. When sent away at last from the North American continent by the purchase of Florida and the acquirement of independence by Mexico, the Spaniards took station on their islands and became a never ceasing source of annoyance to American shipping. Our minister in Madrid was kent busy in demanding reparation for the destruction of American property and for the taking of American lives. The affair of the Virginius was but one of many in which the Spaniards violated the offices of a friendly nation, and throughout the whole history of Spanish occupation in the Western hemisphere we have suffered at their hands.

This country owes but one thing to Spain and that is a benefit which came indirectly. It was the enunciation of the Monroe doctrine. When the allied powers had overturned the liberal government in Spain and seated Ferdinand upon the throne, it was believed that the next movement would be for the overthrow of the South American governments that had achieved their independence from Spanish rule, and then it was that President Monroe gave warning that Europe and European systems could not be reintroduced or enlarged upon American soil. It is perhaps an example of the irony of fate that this doctrine which was born to us out of Spanish affairs should now arise to confront the Spaniards in their

Overheard in Hades. From the New York Press.

First Imp-"The old man's terribly pre occupied to-day. He nearly let the fire go out under the scorcher's grid." Second Imp-"Yes. He's been studying Cuba. The president's message to-day will up his Spanish."

EDITORIAL PARAGRAPHS.

The next important number on the bill is Graeco-Roman wrestling match between ongress and the situation.

The powers and the pope and the Spar iards may fix up all the armistices they want to. This country is going to have : free Cuba or a fight.

The Hon. Dan Stuart is full of melan holy. A great fight is about to be pulled off, and he has no part in its management and will get no gate receipts.

The statement that Chicago has elected several honest aldermen is not surprising. Chicago is full of enterprise and is constartly trying new experiments.

All blame for any further delay will have to be shouldered by congress. The president lays down his martrydom with the presentation of his message.

The president's efforts to avoid incurring responsibility for the Spanish bonds are due, of course, to the fact that Mark Hanna doesn't happen to hold any of those bonds.

Those congressmen who have announced their purpose to resign and enlist will probably be able to blow off the excess of patriotism in speeches on to-day's mes-An idea of the strength of the war spirit

in the West may be formed from the fact that every fruit stand in Kansas City is making a specialty of navel and blood oranges. It is gratifying to know that General Lee is safely out of Cuba. There has been

a prevalent apprehension that sooner or later the treacherous Spanlards would assassinate him. Senor Moret declares proudly that Spaniards are still Spaniards." That is true, but the statement may not hold good

long. A good many Spaniards are soon going to be corpses. "What shall we do with the minor poet?" asks the Globe-Democrat. "Get him to enlist if possible," says the Times-Herald. As a major? But, come to think of it, he isn't eligible for service. His feet are

Spain is trying very hard to place Uncle Sam in the attitude of the wicked aggressor. But all civilized nations know where the guilt lies in this Cuban controversy. and they will regard the chastisement of the Spaniards as righteous punishment.

The Vizcaya and the Oquendo may have beer, sent to Porto Rico to protect the torpedo flotilla when it arrives, and then again they may have been sent for their own safety. If our fleet should coop them up in Havana harbor they would never get out with the Spanish flag at their masts.

Spanish troops stopped 200 reconcentrados on their way to work the other day and killed them. This seems very cruel but it is not as cruel as to have kept them penned up until they starved to death, which would have been their fate if the Spanish government hadn't been scared into ordering their release.

NOTES AND NOTIONS.

General Armstrong, of the Hampton in titute, devoted himself to combating the notion of "the curse of Adam." In his reed work was necessary to salvation, and he taught and urged in every possible way the beauties and blessings of labor. All that Christianity needs to add to the blessing of labor is to "illuminate it with intelce, dexterity, invention, economy, patience and love." This is doctrine that is good for us all, and, not simply for the shall see." dark skinned pupils of Hampton institute. One of the primary blunders of socialistic and communistic dreamers is the assumption that labor is a curse and that the ingenuity of man should be devoted to reducing it to a minimum. The bummer and deadbeat put this doctrine into practice individually. The honest socialist does not mean to cultivate bummers, but that is the largest crop he would raise if he could have his way.

The archbishop of Canterbury recently rave some reminiscences of his school days. He found one of the great advantages of the boys' school that it early took the hot temper out of those who went to school provided with that unpleasant equipment, And in an English school, he said, "a hoy was surrounded with fellows who would scorn him if he told a lie, and who would look upon him with contempt if he did anything mean or ungenerous." We don't like to seem pessimistic, but we can't help wondering whether that could honestly be said of American schools to-day. We hope Napoleon they made the express stipulation | it is so, but if it is not, teachers and school boards ought to sit up nights thinking how it can be made so. One thing is sure: boys will not be honest and clean and brave if their teachers are not, and how far do school boards ever go in ascertaining whether a candidate has these qualifications?

While Johns Hopkins university is gasping for breath and in danger of starving to death, Mr. Jacob Tome, of Maryland, gives \$4,000,000 to found the Jacob Tome institute. It would be a questionable sten to make an assault upon the sacredness of testatory rights, but it does seem as though the state of Maryland would almost be justified in interfering here, and in diverting Mr. Tome's bequest into the channel where the public good shows clearly that it is most needed. The Johns Hopkins university never had or even fancied it had as much as Mr. Tome leaves to his institute, and half of this bequest would set this noble institution out of danger. We do not approve of the Jesuitical evasions of the will of Stephen Girard, but if a high court or a legislature would frankly declare the whimsical terms of such bequests to be contrary to public policy the

harm would not be great. A bill is pending in the Massachusett legislature extending the suffrage for overseers of Harvard university to those whe have taken only an advanced degree from the institution. This is only to bring the legislation in this line down to date, for when the old regulations were adopted there was no graduate school. The extreme conservative attitude of the Harvard administration was manifested, however, in the care that had been taken to insert the word "male" among the provisions. There are at present no female graduates of Haryard, but evidently the authorities foresee the inevitable, and are trying to stave it off as long as possible, and by all the devices possible. But a member of the legislature had the word cut out, so that if women are ever admitted they will be upon the same footing as their brothers.

MISSOURI POINTS.

Columbia expressed itself by a decisive majority the other day as opposed repostion to put \$10,000 of the public funds n a sewer.

Centralia is one of the fortunate Mis ouri municipalities which begin the nev official year with a nice roll of money in the treasury and no indebtedness.

Through the recent settlement in New York of a deceased brother's estate, Dr tobinson, editor of the Maryville Republican, comes into possession of a \$10,000

Mayor Dockery, of Kirksville, is being favorably spoken of as the probable Republican nomince for congress in the Firs district.

The coroner of a Northwest Missou county, with a patriotic desire to extend his sphere of usefulness, has tendered his refessional services to the federal au thorities.

The 25,000 bushel corn purchase made by Cattle King Gelvin in Maitland the other day, for stock feeding purposes, attracted no special attention there. Such little leals by Mr. Gelvin are of frequent occurrence. Platte county is credited with having

furnished, in the person of Student Hock iday, the most perfectly developed spec men of physical manhood among Missour university boys, the word of the gymna sium director being authority therefor. Monroe county Democrats have renon

inated J. H. Whitecotton as a legislative cendidate, and he is said to be casting covetous glances already toward the speakership claim which Statesman Farris imagines himself not only to have pre empted, but to have secured a patent for. A feature of note in connection with the annual school meeting in Deer park. Bo county, last week, was the fact that the venerable presiding officer, Mr. Michael Fisher, who passed the four-score mark some seven years ago, was the honored or

cupant of the chair for the tiftieth cor

secutive time-a record perhaps unparal ieled in the history of the country. April Lippincott: "Margaret Gilman George, whose poems have often appeared in Lippincott's, was born at Columbia Mo., November 25, 1869, and died at Lewis town, 1ll., November 23, 1897. In 1895 she became Mrs. W. T. Davidson, She had a happy gift of verse, and her productions deserved to be more widely known. So far

as we are aware, they have not been collected." A Boone county man, Ben Franklin, who was one of the big party of Missouri Klondikers that left Mexico five or six weeks ago, is back at home loaded down with nuggets of disgust and unpleasant ex perlences. Franklin had sold his farm in order to obtain the necessary cash with which to make the trip, and is out \$500 for his little jaunt which extended to Sheep camp, beyond Dyea. He predicts the early return of at least 25 per cent of the Mex-

The Missouri representatives in the comng debate with Nebraska university "havbeen so unfortunate," as the Herald puts it, as to draw the affirmative side of the proposition, "Resolved, That the Annexaion of the Hawaiian Islands Would Be Beneficial to the United States," The misfortune idea perhaps is based on the theory that the facts are so wholly favorable to the affirmative that its representatives will be left without a plausible excuse i they should happen to be overthrown by their opponents in the debate.

ico party.

"Wonder what this means, if true? queries the Democratic Ash Grove Comnonwealth as to the statement that Governor Stephens has secured a suite of rooms at a Springfield hotel for his personal use during the state convention. "Stephens is not a candidate for anything," it continues. "No man or candidate for a state office will ask his public support, for fear of being beaten; but even if any did, it would be a piece of gross presumption for the governor of the state to come to Springfield in the interest of any candidate. Can it be that the governor is afraid there tails, is danger of an administration indorsenent resolution being turned down? We

Washington Post: Representative Robb, of Missouri, had occasion yesterday to make a speech about paying the heirs of John Roach some \$330,000, and likewise about the expectation of war as a reason for keeping down all expenses that are not absolutely necessary. Having explained his point of view at some length, Mr. Robb further enlightened the house about the virtue of economy by quoting

the following lines:

Once said an old woman of Lynn,
"I'd like to be good

If I could,
But I don't know where to begin."

With this quotation to demonstrate that the house would have difficulty in finding where to cut down expenses first, Mr. Robb concluded his speech.

War stories are in style at present, and there are many veterans in Independence who, according to the Examiner, can tell some of thrilling interest from personal exerience. Ed Strode was an expert with twenty-four pound gun, and he relates how he shot a man's hat off with his cannon at Vicksburg. The man was digging in the trenches and every little while would poke his head above the dirt and dodge when a shot was fired in his direc-tion. Mr. Strode pointed "Crazy Jane" just right, and the next time that hat began to appear he touched off the can non. The hat was hit by the big rifle bail and flew high in the air and the mar in the trenches did not raise his head again. Buck Fields modestly tells how he shot eighteen times one morning and saw sixteen horses go away riderless.

Professor Broadhead, of the university tells the Herald of having found the follow ing in a copy of the Missouri Intelligencer which was printed in Columbia October 19 1833: "The steamer Norfolk, which left the city of Baltimore a few days since for Richmond, had on board a pedestal and obelisk, designed for the tomb of the author of the Declaration of Independence It was plain, but the inscription on the pedestal was not as legible, perhaps, as it might have been Inscription on the obelisk: 'Here was buried Thomas Jefferson author of the Declaration of American Independence; of the statute of Virginia for religious freedom; and father of the Uni-

versity of Virginia."
"On the pedestal: 'Born April 20, 1743;
died July 4, O. S., 1826."
This refers to the monument which now stands on the

Professor Milton Updegraff, director of he Missouri university astronomical observatory, who has been observing the comet, superstitiously known as the "war comet," said the other day: "During the past week we have been observing Perrine's comet with the seven and one-half inch telescope of the Laws observatory and have secured several good observations of its position. The comet is now in the constellation Pegasus, and this morning at 4 o'clock was 3 degrees north of the fourth magnitude star lota Pegasi. It was meving about a degree and a half a day in a northwesterly direction, nearly parallel to the horizon, and is just visible to the naked eye. With an opera glass the comet can be seen much more plainly, and the tail can be made out, the latter being a degree long, perhaps, its visibility de-pending on the clearness of the air. Our observations indicate that the head of the omet is from 35,000 to 45,000 miles in diameter. with a bright nucleus, perhaps 8,000 miles in diameter. The head of the comet is probably more than 100 times as large as the earth in bulk, while the nucleus is of about the same size as the earth, per haps. The volume of the tail is much

very small as compared with the earth, since the density of comets is very small compared to that of the planets."

"It will not be creditable to the state of Missouri if the Missouri exhibit at the Omaha exposition has to be abandoned owing to lack of funds to defray the cos of the exhibit. In the event of such a de plorable happening, the people of Mis-souri will be to blame," truthfully de-clares the St. Louis Republic. "It will be because of their failure to respond to the call for subscriptions that the state of Missouri will go on record as being too poor or too parsimonious to participate in one of the greatest Western expositions ever held. This would be unfortunate for Missouri. There is every reason why the state should be adequately represented at Omaha, and the absence of a Missouri exhibit would be commented upon in a spirit calculated to greatly injure the state pres-tige. Missouri is the lifth state in the Union, and the leading state of the Middle West. It cannot afford to be unrepresented at the Omaha exposition. Missourians still have it in their power to properly uphold the dignity of the state. April 22, the date of the next meeting of the state board of Omaha exposition com missioners, the deficit of \$7.500 now due to complete the fund for the state exhibit shall have been subscribed. Missouri will be duly represented at Omaha. If not, the state exhibit will be abandoned. It is to be hoped that the necessary amount will be raised and the Missouri exhibit completes as befits the rank of this state at such an exposition. Failure to do this will be source of humiliation to all Missourians whose state pride will lead them to ap preciate the significance of such failure."

FEMININE FACT AND FANCY.

Miss Nannie Leiter, of Chicago, has bee named the most beautiful woman in Ameri ca by the painter, Carolus Duran.

ing to which women who killed their hus bands were burned at the stake, was repealed. A prominent member of the Washingto

It was not until 1790 that the law, accord-

Federation of Women's Clubs desires to establish at the national capital a national clubhouse for women which, if it becomes a fact, will be the only one in the world.

The fact that there are 1,000 unmarried women to every seventy-five unmarried men probably explains the numbers of let ters of proposal that have been pouring in upon General Cassius M. Clay since the institution of his divorce proceedings.

Popularity usually is pleasant, but it ha a thorny side. The empress of Germany has received so many wounds from bouquets thrown by admirers at her as she drove through the streets that she has been compelled to protest against each open demonstration of her people's re-

There were bidders from all over the country for the contract work upon the new Episcopal church at La Crosse, Wis., but the successful one was Miss C. Mead, of the Mead Construction Company, of Mc-Donald, Pa., of which she is manager and principal estimator.

Miss Lenore Mooney, chief clerk of the postoffice inspection department at Chiago, has been promoted to the position of chief clerk of the same department at Washington. The selection of a woman for this position is regarded as an unusual departure and is a high compliment to Miss Mooney's ability.

Mrs. Richard Boyle, of London, who has been trying for two years to persuade omen to give up the practice of wearing birds on their hats, has finally uttered the following discouraging dictum: "Where fashion is concerned the world of women is utterly callous and blind to every consideration except its own selfish vanity.' The following notes from Success may

be of interest to modern frequenters of secludes lanes and moonlit walks: A Puritar lover's fallure to acquaint his kinsfolk with the fact that he was about to "make a motion of marriage," and all the particulars concerning the desired one, was punished by a whipping with a cat-o'-nineing a lady to whom he was not known to

engaged, was brought before a council of the wise men of his neighborhood, and forced to give a strict account of himself, and to hear sentence. Only widows and widowers might keep their courtship affairs and marriage inten-

tions to themselves. A widower was usually preferred.

The atrocious inhumanity of General Weyler's method of concentration is illustrated by the misfortunes of one well-to-do Cuban family, the members of which occupled a large, comfortable home. A photograph of the three young ladies in the family shows them to be not only civilized but intelligent and refined. It is said that they are good types of Cuban beauty. The awful condition to which these delicate sisters have been reduced is shown in another cicture, which depicts the bark but wher they are now forced to live. Its contrast with the home from which they were driven is as great as is the contrast of war under humane conditions with war as it is waged by the Spanish of the nineteenth century. Consul Barker writes that four younger members of this family are dead. died from starvation. These very girls cannot leave their hovel except one at a time for she must wear the only dress they have.

Senator Hanna is having everything his own way. Even his daughters are reported to be turning out just as he wished them to. The elder, Mabel, they say, greatly reembles her father, in a feminine way, and possesses many of his characteristics. She s slender and of medium height, and has brown hair and dark gray eyes. Her attire is always fashionable. She has a great fondness for both society and the theater, and is seen at most of the important social functions both in Cleveland and Washing ton. Ruth, the younger, is still in school make her debut in Washington society nex winter. She is a graceful and beautiful girl, a decided brunette, and inherits her nother's social tact. She is much taller than her sister, and has brown eyes and a pale, clear complexion. Both girls are ood whips, and take great pleasure is driving a high-stepping steed to a wellappointed cart in fine weather,

Oliver Smith, of Massachusetts, who died more than tifty-three years ago, left a large sum of money for the institution of a unique system of charity through which in digent girls can obtain a marriage portion. The beneficiary, during the years between 15 and 18 must be bound out in some sensible family where she is to be taught the essential principles of house-keeping. Then, according to report, if a girl bound under the will serves until she is is years of age she is entitled to \$36 whenever she shall marry. Applicants for the wedding portion are of all ages-girls who have just finished their term of service and have been waiting eagerly for their eighteenth birthday, girls who have turned the first corner, and out and-out old maids, even to the mature age of 48 and over. The charity is scarcely safe from these dowry calls until a beneficiary has drawn her last breath.

If a girl is about to marry she notifies the trustees and they sit in judgment upor her intended husband. If he is sober steady, industrious, and an American citizen, the young couple are sent on their way rejoicing, and the happy bride receives her \$300, but if the man is unworthy and the beneficiary marries him against the wish of the trustees, she forfeits her marriage dot.

The cruel temperament of the Spanish man finds a counterpart in the revengeful spirit of the wronged Spanish woman. The Spanish woman will have revenge. Instances have been cited where she has spent years of her life planning and waiting for I court.

the supreme moment when she would be able to plunge her stiletto into the heart of the man who deserted her. She does not try to escape punishment for her crime nor does she, like her sisters in other coun tries, commit suicide. Her only and allonquering desire seems merely to be to injure the one who has brought misfortun and sorrow to her, although, as one says To suppose that all Spanish women are a bloodthirsty as these incidents might im ply would be a mistake. There is abun dance of testimony to show the fidelity of the Spanish woman as a wife when she is well treated, but, unfortunately such treatment is rare. There is a Spanish proverb, 'A Spanish woman and a walnut tree the more you beat them the better the be,' and this rough adage indicates with tolerable exactness the estimate in which Spanish women are held by their spouses They are probably quite as domestic in their habits as the women of any other na tion, but through the veins of even the most

demure and sedate senorita there flows the

blood of the tiger."

An interesting story is told of how Mme Nellie Melha made her first professiona appearance as a public singer. She had sung a great deal at charity concerts, although with the disapproval of her parents, who were strict Scotch Presbyteriens, and finally she conceived the idea of giving a concert on her own account. Accordingly it is said, she engaged a hall, made all arrangements, and started out to sell the tickets. Her father, however, recognizing with joy his opportunity to cure her of her inclination to sing in public, had set about to secure a disastrous result for the con cert by previously calling on her friends and pledging them, as a favor to him, to decline to buy. The result was that when the eventful evening came Melba found herself confronted by a select but diminu tive audience of two! Nothing daunted. she gave the entire concert, according to programme, and, later when the bills for hall rent and advertising were presented suspecting the trick he had served her, sent her creditors to her father, who, by that time, convinced that his brilliant scheme had failed of its hoped-for result, and with a secret admiration of his daughter's pluck paid them willingly. It can not be doubted that her splendid career has long since re moved his early objection, which, had it been successful, would have deprived the world of song of its most shining light.

Business Situation.

From the Chicago Post.

The situation at the moment is undeni ably one of considerable tension. Every body is anxiously awaiting the develop nents of the week. The idea prevails that the president's message will mark the crisis in the American-Spanish trouble, and that very soon after its transmission to congress he question of whether there shall be war or a continuation of the present peacefu conditions will be definitely decided. The intensity of the strain increases as the time of this expected crisis draws near.

The business world knows, however, that although the surface indications point strongly to the severance of friendly rela ions between this country and Spain, until war is actually declared, or some overt act precipitates hostilities, the friends of peace will not lessen their efforts to bring about an amicable adjustment of the trouble There is an eagerness manifested on all sides to take a hopeful view of the situa tion. At the same time there is a full appreciation of all the possibilities, and conservatism is therefore the order of the The effect of this is noticeable in the checking of new enterprises rather than in any stoppage of commercial or manufacturing operations already undertaken, however. The country has perhaps never been bet-

ter prepared to meet the shock of war than now, and it is the knowledge of this fact that is giving confidence to commercial interests. Business, after a five-year de pression, is again on a sound basis. The national finances are in excellent shape and the resources of the country are practical-ly unlimited. There is an abundance of There is an abundance of money in the banks, not only in the large centers, but in the interior Furthermore, gold continues to come this way in a steady stream as a result of the enormous merchandise indebtedness owed by Europe. In view of these conditions there is less apprehension regarding the events than might otherwise be expected. The action of the speculative markets has been irregular, within narrow limits. Tradng has again been almost entirely of a professional character. Liquidation has apparently been thorough and complete, and with stocks held largely in strong hands the floating supply is small. This has tended to greatly restrict business, and the week just nded has on the whole been a quiet and

featureless one. Portentous war clouds have had the effect of stiffening grain and provision mar-kets and prices are a triffe higher than at the end of the previous week. Export of grain of all kinds and of cured meats and lard continues on its previously heavy scale. Weather has been favorable for spring work and for the growth of the fall-sown wheat generally, the only notable exception being in California, where drouth and unseasonable frosts have spoiled a previously promising prosepect for wheat, barley and fruit of various kinds. Unfortunate as that is for the people of California, and important as are the agricultural productions of that state, a quite considerable loss there would not seriously affect the general result, if the present promise elsewhere should be fulfilled. There is only the one cloud on the commercial horizon. The sacrifice necessary to dispel that has been determined upon and when in due time an apparently unavoidable conflict shall have been brought to a victorious issue the sun of prosperity will

shine with all the greater brightness for its temporary obscuration. Programme for the Navy.

From the Chicago Record.

In case of war there probably will be two centers of interest as early scenes of strategic operations. One will be in the vicinity of the north coast of Cuba and the other will me somewhere along the Atlantic seaboard of the United States, While the navy department is not likely to divulge its plans in detail, the situation is such that here would be an apparent necessity of a naval engagement somewhere in the vi-cinity of Havana, if not in the harbor itself. Intervention by force will be resisted, and the point of intervention can hardly e carried at an early day while Havana remains in Spain's hands. Once let the equadron now situated at the Tortugas come under the guns of Morro castle and the neighboring forts and it must fight in self-defense. Nor is it probable that so powerful a flotilla would fail to reduce the city after a comparatively short action. The really dangerous resistance would come from the battleships which Spain would return to those waters and from other torpedo craft. The danger of mines would be naterially lessened were the Spanish vessels obliged to maneuver at close range with their enemies in the same harbor. Except for the comparatively small

chances of privateering among the merchant marine, the rest of the naval action must take place somewhere along the ast Atlantic coast, either by the meeting of two hostile fleets or by the efforts of he Spanish to attack the coast and bombard American cities. Commodore Schley's squadron, judging from the position of the fleets, will be assigned to this duty, and, while it is not formidable in battleships, it would render a good account of itself as against any squadron which Spain would

e able to send over. How They Separated.

From the Chicago Post.
"What was the trouble?" they asked. "Why, you see," explained the friend of the family, "shortly after they were marded she demanded autonomy and he re fused to consent to it. Then she rebelled, and now she says that nothing will satis fy her except absolute and complete inde-

pendence."
Then they all readily understood how the couple happened to land in the divorce

MY CREED.

I hold that Christian grace abounds Where charity is seen; that when We climb to heaven, 'tis on the rounds

I hold all else, named plety, A selfish scheme, a vain pretense; Where center is not, can there be

Circumference? This I moreover hold and dare Affirm where'er my rhyme may go: Whatever things be sweet or fair.

Whether it be the sickle's rush Through wheat fields, or the fall of showers, Or by some cabin door a bush

Of rugged flowers. 'Tis not the wide phylactery, Nor stubborn fast, nor stated prayers, That makes us saints; we judge the tree

By what it bears. And when a man can live apart From works, on theologic trust, I know the blood about his heart Is dry as dust.

SONG.

-Allice Carey.

Under the greenwood tree, Who loves to lie with me. And tune his merry note Unto the sweet bird's throat, Come hither, come hither, come hither;

But winter and rough weather, Who doth ambition shun, And loves to live in the sun. Seeking the food he eats.

And pleased with what he gets. Come hither, come hither, come bither; Here shall be see

No enemy

But winter and rough weather. -William Shakespeare.

"WHAT IS SORROW!"

Tell me what is surrow? It is a gloomy cage. And what is joy? It is a little bird, Whose song therein is heard. Opening the door, for I was never sage, I took it from its perch; with sudden rage It bit me-bit, I let it go again,
And now I look and long for it in vain.

-- Hichard Henry Stoddard.

OF CURRENT INTEREST.

A man who has just returned from a Western trip said the other day: "While I was in San Francisco I visited one of the telephone exchanges there to witness a novel experiment of applying an automatic phonograph to a telephone switchboard, to do the work of an operator. The result was satisfactory to the telephone company, but it must have been heartbreaking to some of their subscribers. This phonograph was so arranged that when a subscriber called up number that was busy, the phonograph answered, 'Busy now. Call up later.' was the invariable reply whenever a busy number was called for, and it was given in a monotonous tone of voice. I admired the cleverness of the application until the manager said to me: You know, some of our subscribers are very profane, and perhaps you would like to hear their opinion. Here Captain Blank, who has been calling a busy number for five minutes now. Lisen to him.' Captain Blank's wire was swung on the receiver, which I put to my ear. I never heard anything like it. 'You blankety blank blank idiot,' he was saying, 'can't you say anything else but "busy now. call up later?" There you go again, you blasted idiotic chump. I'm coming up to the central office and kill you right away." That, said the manager, is one of the drawbacks of this invention. It excites profane men unduly, and it might lead to violence.' I heard the opinion of several other San Francisco men who called busy numbers and received over and over again this monotonous reply, and I think the in-

vention is open to serious objection." At one of the many dinners which Joseph Jefferson has been compelled to eat by his adoring friends of late, the band began to play "The Star Spangled Banner" while they were still at the table and everybody sang the national anthem as best he could. Mr. Jefferson found in this incident a happy peg for a pertinent reminiscence. singing of the 'Star Spangled Banner,' " he said, "reminds me of an occasion when it waved over me. That was my first appear-1837, at a benefit for Master Edward Titus, aged 9 years, Master Edward Jeffers aged 7 years, appeared and fought a ter-rific broadsword contest with said Master Edward Titus, and all but cut off the great toe of that beneficiary. dressed in the American colors while Ioh, with humiliation I confess it!-was arrayed as a Spanish pirate. He was victorious, set his foot on the vanquished Spaniard and waved aloft the American flag. I have rather been of the opinion lately that I was innocently and primarily, perhaps, the cause of the present strained relation between the two countries."

For many years the best barbers in New York bought the combs used in cutting hair from several Germans who lived on the lower East side, and devoted their time to the manufacture of these articles. The Germans made the combs from bone, and to the unprofessional observer the combs showed no marked difference from those to be bought anywhere. In reality they possessed a merit which made them highly valued by the barbers. They were so shaped that as they were run through the hair it was held up in a way that exhibited the slightest irregularity in length. It was this particular quality that made them valuable. Within the last few years sev eral of the combs have greatly increased in price, and the old man who still supplies them finds his work more profitable than it ever was before. Nobody else has learned the secret of making them, and so the art seems likely to die with the man who makes them now.

Captain J. W. Holmes, of the American ship Charmer, has just arrived at home for the seventy-sixth time. The captain is 74 years old, has been at sea since he was o, and has never been shipwrecked. This immunity from disaster is all the more remarkable, considering that he never con-suits a barometer, but crowds on sail at all times, depending on his own weather wisdom for the safety of his ship and crew.

Some of the Eastern folklore journals, Frank Stanton says, are "off" on negro dialect. That to which they give preference is about as correct as the mouthings of the end man in the average minstrel troupe. It is a dialect entirely unrecognizable in the localities of which it is said to be characteristic. And folklore journals are presumed to be correct in these matters That is the pity of it.

In a song contest in Germany it is announced that 1,000 bottles of the finest Moselle wine will be given to the poet and composer who shall produce, within the current year, such a song as is suited, in the opinion of the committee appointed for the purpose, to become a Volkslied for the German-speaking world. If the words and the music are by different persons, then each is to receive 500 bottles

Settlers from the older states are reviving the use of the old prairie schooner in eaching their new homes in Minnesota and the Dakotas. Reports from various sources indicate that the movement of settlers tolargest for several years. Many are already on the road.

An Irish Indian chief is something in the vay of a novelty. It appears that the Winnebago Indians in Wisconsin chose a new chief recently. Their choice proves to be a young Hibernian, Thomas Reddy. He is the son of Patrick Reddy, an Indian trader, who is a native of Limerick, Ireland.

The queen of Greece is the only woman admiral in the world. The rank was conhe also holds a commission in the Russian navy.